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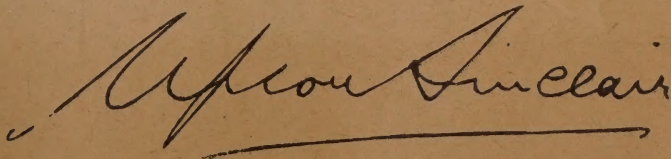
A Socialist View of German Victory

(Written by UPTON SINCLAIR for the National Security League.)

Nine years ago the writer made an effort to persuade the International Socialist movement to take some effective measures against world war, then clearly foreseen. A manifesto was prepared, urging that the Socialist movements of the various countries should make opposition to war their first interest, and that membership in a Socialist organization should come to mean a pledge to refuse to take part in war against nations similarly pledged. This manifesto was

circulated in England, France, Italy, Australia, Canada and the United States. In Germany alone, of all modern industrial nations, it was found impossible to awaken interest in the document. Leaders of the German Social-democracy explained that the Socialists of Germany could do nothing to prevent war. Said one of them, generally recognized as their intellectual head: "After a war, and especially after an unsuccessful war, **then** will come our chance." August Bebel, for more than a generation the beloved leader of the German movement, wrote in his memoirs that the German people would never attain freedom until the power of its ruling caste had been broken **by a military defeat**. This is a hard saying; especially must it be hard for a German to say it now, in war-time. But Karl Liebknecht has said it, and the Socialists of the allied countries have the best of Socialist authority for supporting this war, so long as it is waged in the spirit of the declarations of our President, that we will make peace with the people of Germany, but not with their conscienceless rulers.

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